APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,407	07/10/2001	Yasser alSafadi	US010319	8261

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER
BOVEJA, NAMRATA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3622	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/902,407	ALSAFADI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Namrata Boveja	3622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *06 December 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-14 and 16-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14 and 16-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *10 July 2001 and 11 January 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This office action is in response to communication filed on 12/06/2006.

2.   Claim 15 has been cancelled by the Applicant. Claims 1-14 and 16-20 are

presented for examination.

3.   Amendments to claims 1, 2, 5-9, 13, 14, and 16-20 have been received and

entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office

action:

> *(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed*
> *publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.*

4.   *Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 12-14, 16, 17, and 20, are rejected under 102(a) as being*

anticipated by the LexisNexis website printouts (see attached pages) (hereinafter

Lexis).

In reference to claim 1, *the Lexis teaches* a method for use in an information

processing system for generating a recommendation at a processing device, the

method comprising: *pre-defining one or more user-selectable limiting factors in a*

recommender system that limit characteristics of a recommendation-generating process

implemented in the recommender system (i.e. giving the user the option to select the

following factors: KWIC, FULL, All Pos, All Neg, Show Symbols, and Custom

Restrictions – Jurisdictions, Headnotes, and Date) (pages 2-5, 9, 11-15, 22, and 23);

receiving an input in *the* recommender system *(i.e. receiving a citation, party names,*

keywords) (pages 5, 6, 9, 12-15, 22, and 23); processing the input in the recommender

system in accordance with the one or more pre-defined, user-selectable limiting factors

(i.e. applying the factors to the search input) (pages 7, 17, and 22); and generating *an*

output recommendation based at least in part on the *processed* input *(i.e. presenting*

the user with the results) (7, 8, 17, and 22).

5.   In reference to *claims 2, 13, and 16, Lexis* teaches the method further including

generating a ripeness indicator associated with the output recommendation, the

ripeness indicator being indicative of the one or more *user-selectable* limiting factors

(pages 3, 4, and 21-23).

6.   *In reference to claim 3, Lexis teaches the method wherein the ripeness indicator*

comprises a visual indicator having at least a first state corresponding to a first color

and a second state corresponding to a second color (pages 3, 4, and 21-23).

7.   *In reference to claim 5, Lexis teaches the method wherein at least one of the*

user-selectable limiting factors is selectable via a user interface of the processing

device (pages 2-5, 9, 11-15, 22, and 23).

8.   In reference to claims 8 *and 20, Lexis* teaches the method wherein *at least one*

of the *user-selectable* limiting factors comprises a specified limit on a quality measure

associated with the output recommendation *(i.e. all positive treatment and all negative*

treatment) (pages 4 and 12).

9.   In reference to claim 9, *Lexis* teaches the method wherein *at least one of the*

user-selectable limiting factors is selectable by the user as one of the plurality of points

along a scale from a low level of the limiting factor to a high level of the limiting factor

(i.e. one jurisdiction to all jurisdictions) (pages 12-14).

10.   In reference to claim 10, *Lexis* teaches the method wherein the processing

device is configured for presentation of the output recommendation in a visually

perceptible manner on a display of the device *(pages 1-17 and 21-23).*

11.   In reference to claim 11, *Lexis* teaches the method wherein the processing

device is configured for presentation of the output recommendation in an audibly

perceptible manner (col. 23 lines 38-40) using a speaker (standard component that

accompanies computers) associated with the device.

12.   In reference to claim 12, *Lexis* teaches the method wherein the processing

device comprises at least one of a desktop or portable personal computer *(i.e. the Lexis*

site is accessed and utilized by using a computer) (pages 1-23), a personal digital

assistant, wireless telephone and a set top box.

13.   In reference to claim 14, *Lexis* teaches an apparatus for use in generating a

recommendation in a processing device information processing system, the apparatus

comprising: memory for storing profile associated with the device *(i.e. it is inherent that*

there is a memory for storing the profile, since the user is being asked to login using a

login id which the user had to create previously during registration and which is currently

stored in the system along with information such as student access versus professor

access and e-mail information) (page 1); and a processor coupled to the memory, the

processor being operative to process an input and one or more limiting factors in an

implementation of a recommender system *(pages 5, 6, 9, 12-15, 22, and 23)*, the one or

more limiting factors being *pre-defined and* selectable by user of the device *prior to the*

processor processing the input (pages 7, 9, 12-15, 17, and 22), the one or more limiting

factors defining one or more characteristics of *a recommendation generating process*

implemented in the recommender system, and to generate the output recommendation

based at least in part on the input the stored profile associated with the device *(i.e.*

inherent because Lexis limits certain kinds of access to features for students that it

allows Professors to access based on who logs into Lexis) (page 1), a characteristic of

the recommendation *generating process* being configured by the recommender system

in accordance with the one or more limiting factors *(pages 7, 8, 17, and 22)*.

14.   *In reference to claim 17, Lexis teaches a method for use in an information*

processing system for generating a recommendation at a processing device, the

method comprising: receiving an input in a recommender system from a source

separate from the processing device (i.e. from a user, a keyboard, or a mouse) (page

6), the recommender system operating on a recommendation-generating process

(pages 7, 17, and 22); processing the input in the recommender system in accordance

with one or more pre-defined, user-selectable factors that limit characteristics of the

recommendation-generating process (pages 7, 8, 17, and 22); generating an output

recommendation based on the processed input (pages7, 8, 17, and 22); and generating

a ripeness indicator associated with the one or more pre-defined, user- selectable

limiting factors (pages 3, 4, and 21-23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

15.   Claims *6, 7, 18, and 19* are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over *Lexis* in view of Shaw ("Inventing the 'Paper' of Figure...Newspapers and the

Future: First of Two Part. Next: Fax, phones, fear and the future." Los Angeles Times.

June 2, 1991. Pages 1-8 hereinafter Shaw).

In reference to claims 6 *and 18*, *Lexis* does not does not teach the method

wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an amount of time that may be

spent by the recommender system in generating the output recommendation. Shaw

teaches the method wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an amount

of time that may be spent by the recommender system in generating the output

recommendation (Page 2 lines 33-34 and Page 3 lines 1-3). It would have been

obvious to modify *Lexis* wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an

amount of time that may be spent by the recommender system in generating the output

recommendation to enable users to receive smaller or greater *number of result listings*

which best match the user criteria according to how much time the user has available to

view the search results.

16.   In reference to claims 7 *and 19, Lexis* does not does not teach the method

wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an amount of power

consumption utilized (this is also considered to be equal to the amount of time that may

be spent by the recommender system in generating the output recommendation, since

in effect if you are running out of power, you are running out of the amount of time you

have available to access the device prior to shut down as a result of depleting the power

supply) in conjunction with generating the output recommendation. Shaw teaches the

method wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an amount of time that

may be spent by the recommender system in generating the output recommendation

(Page 2 lines 33-34 and Page 3 lines 1-3). It would have been obvious to modify *Lexis*

wherein the limiting factor comprises a specified limit on an amount of time that may be

spent by the recommender system in generating the output recommendation to enable

users to receive smaller or greater *number of result listings which best match the user*

criteria according to how much time the user has available to view the search results.

17.   Claims 4 and 11 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Lexis in view of Official Notice.

        In reference to claims 4 and 11, Lexis teaches the method comprising of a visual

ripeness indicator (pages 3, 4, and 21-23). Lexis does not teach the ripeness indicator

to be audible and presenting the information using a speaker associated with the

device. In reference to claim 4, official notice is taken that it is old and well known to use

an audible indicator to indicate the existence of a match in the case of an

announcement of winning lottery numbers for example and to play this information using

computer speakers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill

in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to include the use of an audio indicator

in the ripeness indicator and computer speakers to enable users to audibly determine

the match of results based a given criteria, since some people may want to receive this

information by the use of audio and other may prefer to view the information graphically.

Conclusion

18.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP §

706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR

1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the examiner should be directed to Namrata (Pinky) Boveja whose telephone number is

571-272-8105. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

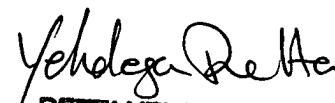If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on 571-272-6724. The **Central**

Fax Number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is

571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 1866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NB

February 16th, 2007

RETTA YEHDEGA
PRIMARY EXAMINER